



Next week- Week 1/A

Attendance reporting procedures Please report children's absence by 08:30 each morning using our [online google form](#) which can also be found on the school website. This form should also be used to report future absence e.g. dentist appointments.

Safeguarding

Please find a useful [link](#) that provides guidance on parental controls for the Discord app.

Character

We'd like to celebrate our fantastic Year 11 Prefects, who have done an outstanding job delivering the Character Programme to our Year 8 and 9 students over the past year. Their commitment, enthusiasm, and leadership have been instrumental in helping to embed our character values across the school.

As we now begin training our new Year 10 cohort of Prefects, they will spend the next two weeks shadowing the Year 11 team before taking over delivery of the programme themselves. Some of our current Year 11 Prefects will move into Senior Prefect roles, continuing to support and help coordinate the new Year 10 team.

The Character Programme is an integral part of school life at Ashlyns, it supports our students in developing resilience, integrity, and compassion, helping them to thrive both in and beyond the classroom.

Open Evening

Thank you to all the students who gave up their evening last Thursday to help the school on Open Evening: from guides to department helpers to speakers in the chapel: they were all fantastic ambassadors for Ashlyns.

Year 11 Raising Achievement Programme

We continue to see a fantastic turnout at Session 6, our after-school silent revision space for Year 11 students. This calm, focused environment allows students to revise independently and productively.

Students are encouraged to be intentional in their approach — arriving prepared with the materials they need, such as printed past papers or revision notes. The top two most effective methods are:

- Past papers with mark schemes
- Flashcards for regular quizzing

Students are also encouraged to adopt a mixed approach to past paper practice, completing both closed tasks (without notes, testing recall) and open tasks (with notes, linking flashcards to questions). This blend helps strengthen exam technique, understanding, and confidence ahead of the final assessments.

Key Dates

- 16 Oct: Y11 Parent-Teacher Consultation Evening
- 22 Oct: Y11 Into The Sixth Evening
- 27-31 Oct: Half Term
- 6 Nov: Y12 Parent-Teacher Consultation Evening

Next Week New Spring/ Summer [Lunch Menu](#): Week 1

Communications

- [Y9 & Y12 Theatre Trip](#)
- [Y8 Natural History Museum trip](#)
- [Y7, Y8, Y9 Food Contribution letter](#)
- [Y11 "Into The Sixth" letter](#)

Vacancies

- [Business & Economics Teacher](#)
- [Business Studies Teacher](#)
- [Attendance Officer](#)
- [Premises Assistant](#)
- [Exam Invigilator](#)
- [SpLD HLTA](#)

House Points

Current house points			
Bourne	Coram	Handel	Raven
4659	5114	5009	5424
4 th	2 nd	3 rd	1 st
10/10/2025			

ASA News

Thanks to everyone who came to our AGM & meeting this week. Our Co-Treasurers reported a total amount raised of well over £20k, which is a fantastic achievement, and gave us confidence to approve

Student Achievements in Sport

Congratulations to the following students for their selection into Herts County football: Luca W, James P, Joey S, Alfie B, Charlie B, Zach S, Daisy T, Ollie C

In cricket, congratulations to the following for their selection into Herts and Bucks County:

Martha R, Daisy R, Amber R, Poppy D, Lydia B, Tabitha R, Olive D, Daisy T, Oscar R

In netball, congratulations to Ella K for selection into the London Mavericks U19 PDP.

Please do drop us an email to let us know of any other county or similar successes!

Sports Results

Y9A&B Netball vs Tring	A - Lost 46-13 B - Won 12-6
Y7 Boys Football vs Townsend	Won 7-1
Y8 Boys Football vs KLS	1-1 AET Won 3-1 on penalties
U13 Girls Football Tournament	A - 2nd B - 3rd
U16 Girls Football vs Chesham Grammar	Won 7-1

World Challenge Event - 13 December, Ashlyns School

Martha in Y12 is organising a fundraising event for her World Challenge trip (also supporting a local charity - 'Up on Downs' - who support children and families in Hertfordshire). The evening will include food, BYO drink, a raffle and a live band. Tickets £25pp and tables are for 8.

Please email marylines@btinternet.com by 1 November to reserve your table and for payment details.

several of the funding requests that have come through from the school.

To learn more, please complete [this form](#) and hear more about where our funds get allocated as well as our fundraising activities.

Tickets now on sale

23 October Y7&8

Halloween Disco -

7.00pm - 8.30pm

Entrance is £5 including a drink and snack. Fancy dress prizes & a spooky sweet stall.

Tickets available on ParentPay now.

Save the date

16th November - Craft Fair
(please follow on [Facebook](#) and/or [Instagram](#))

23rd November – Tombola
at Festival of Light

14th December – Carol Concert

We'll soon be looking for donations, so please bear the following in mind:

- Cakes for the Craft Fair
- Bottles and chocolates for the Festival of Light tombola
- Mince pies for the Carol Concert (we're still well-stocked on mulled wine from last year!)
- Items for Christmas hampers

We're looking for convenient collection points around the local area to make donating easier for everyone. If you'd be happy to act as a donation point for your neighbourhood, please get in touch via asa@ashlyns.herts.sch.uk.

We're particularly keen to establish points in Northchurch, Bridgewater Road, and areas outside Berkhamsted.

Private Lottery / 100 Club

If you haven't yet, do join our private lottery! Pay £2/month or £24 annually for a chance to win a cash prize. 50% of the proceeds goes to the prize fund, and 50% goes directly to the ASA. Sign up using [this form](#) and set up a standing order. Our numbers are going upwards - meaning we're increasing the cash prize pot!

Tooled Up at Ashlyns - resources from Dr Kathy Weston: School PIN 4989

It's Black History Month in the UK, a time to reflect on the achievements and contributions of Black communities throughout the years. While this celebration may be observed at different times around the globe, it's important to recognise that sadly, in today's increasingly divided world, **racism, microaggressions and discrimination are still very real experiences for many children and young people.**

How can we as parents and carers ensure our children grow up with kindness, tolerance and a deep appreciation for all? One powerful way to foster these qualities is by modelling the behaviour we wish to see and instilling our own children with positive values.

Our resource [How to Talk to Children about Racist Language and the Importance of Being Respectful](#) whilst written for parents of primary-age children, is **useful for any parent**. It offers **practical tips to help children become a positive force for change.**

It's **crucial that young people** feel visually represented and see **strong, confident characters from diverse backgrounds in everyday resources and media.** [Celebrating Race and Ethnicity in Books & Films](#) offers **empowering fiction and non-fiction suggestions for children of all ages**, helping to build pride, resilience, empathy and compassion.

Ensure older children are crystal clear about what is acceptable and unacceptable behaviour. Can they recognise a microaggression - a subtle, indirect action or comment discriminating against someone in a marginalised group? [Let's Talk about Microaggressions](#) outlines **why understanding microaggressions matters**, the impact that they have, and what we can do to support children in our care.

parents to get involved in a bit of research into social media, which the University of Manchester is currently conducting? At Tooled Up, we are partnering with them on some resources that will emerge from the project.

#So.Me

The project #So.Me will develop (PSHE) resources for secondary schools, with a specific focus on social media and mental health. This project aims to create relevant and effective resources that address the real experiences young people have on social media.

As a vital part of the work, the researchers plan to hold an online round table discussion with a small group of parents and teachers of key stage 3 & 4 pupils. The discussion will focus on exploring the barriers adults face in supporting young people with their social media use. It's going to take place on Wednesday 12 November at 6:30pm and will last 60-90 minutes. If you are interested, please email jo.hickman-dunne@manchester.ac.uk